

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): P. Bonutti Confirmation No.: 8298  
Application No.: 10/003,996 Attorney Docket No: 780-A02-014-8  
Filed: November 15, 2001 Group Art Unit: 3733  
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR TISSUE  
REMOVAL Examiner: Mary Hoffman

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In reply to the Final Office Action mailed February 26, 2007, Applicant hereby submits the following Request for Continued Examination, amendments, and remarks. In accordance with USPTO practice, each section of this Response begins on a separate sheet. Applicant submits these amendments and remarks serve to clarify the present invention and are independent of patentability.